



## ABSTRACT

An eight-cylinder engine including fuel injection valves provided for each of the eight cylinders. A first valve drive unit for driving four of the eight fuel injection valves to open and close by energizing the four fuel injection valves and a second valve drive unit for driving the other four fuel injection valves to open and close by energizing the second-mentioned four fuel injection valves. Both of the valve drive units drive the fuel injection valves so that combustion and expansion strokes occur at equal intervals, thus allowing for a sufficient charging time for each valve drive unit. For example, the first valve drive unit energizes those fuel injection valves which are provided on a first, fourth, sixth and seventh cylinders, and the second valve drive unit energizes those fuel injection valves which are provided on a second, third, fifth, and eighth cylinders.